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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants: McLoughlin et al. Date: 2 September 2003  
Serial No.: 09/878,715 Examiner: G. M. Collins  
Filed: June 11, 2001 (U.S. National) Group Art: 3679  
For: A Wellbore Directional Steering Tool

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT**

To the Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop – Amendment – No Fee  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexander, Virginia 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 05 2003  
**GROUP 3600**

Dear Sir:

This is Applicants' response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121) mailed by the Office on 18 August 2003. A shortened statutory response period of one month or thirty days, whichever was longer, was set by the Examiner making the response due on or before 18 September 2003.

A copy of the Notice is attached as the last page of this response. Essentially the Notice required:

1. A clean version of the replacement paragraphs,
2. A marked-up version of the replacement paragraphs,
3. A clean version of the amended claims, and
4. A marked-up version of the amended claims.

Applicant is NOT required to re-submit the entire amendment.